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NAASIS

EMPLOYED WIVES AND
MARITAL ADJUSTMENT

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NEBRASKA ANNUAL SOCIAL INDICATORS SURVEY

Bureau of Sociological Research
Department of Sociology
University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Lincoln, Nebraska 68588
Telephone: (402) 472-3672

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NASIS-79 #10

EMPLOYED WIVES AND
MARITAL ADJUSTMENT

J. Allen Williams, Jr.

and

Alan Booth
Department of Sociology

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The Nebraska Annual Social Indicators Survey

Lynn K. White: 1979 Study Director

The findings in this report are based on data collected in the third Nebraska Annual Social Indicators Survey (NASIS). This survey is part of an on-going study of the quality of life in Nebraska conducted by the Bureau of Sociological Research at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

In 1979 a representative sample of 1882 Nebraskans eighteen years of age or older living in households was interviewed by telephone. The respondents to the 1979 survey are part of a panel originally selected and interviewed in 1977 and 1978. They will be re-interviewed every two years in order to provide information on changing quality of life. The interviews averaged approximately 40 minutes and included questions about environment, health, crime, political attitudes, occupation, education, family life and other matters reflecting the quality of life experienced in the state. For the entire sample, 95 out of 100 times the percentages computed from the items asked on the survey are likely to be accurate to within plus or minus 2.3 percent of the figure that would have been obtained if each adult in Nebraska had been surveyed. This is an estimate of maximum error and for most items the percentages are likely to be even more accurate.

The data gathered by NASIS are used by a wide variety of State and local government agencies for policy and program planning and by faculty and students at the University of Nebraska and other colleges for research. No information identifying any respondent is released to any users and the strict confidentiality of individual respondents is rigidly enforced. While the final responsibility for the organization and structure of the survey and for reports produced under its name rests with the Bureau of Sociological Research, public agencies and University departments play an integral part in planning the survey through an Advisory Committee. Public organizations interested in membership on the Advisory Committee should contact the NASIS Study Director.

Funding for NASIS comes from the University of Nebraska, The Bureau of Sociological Research, and State and local agencies which buy items and data analysis from the survey.

The NASIS surveys are repeated each year to measure changes in the quality of life in Nebraska. While there is a core of questions which is included every year, each survey has a large component of unique items which address specific topical issues. Plans for future years include interviewing a new sample of Nebraskans in 1980 as well as continuing to re-interview the 1977 panel every two years to assess changes in their lives. Additional detail on the NASIS surveys regarding use of the survey data or cost of purchasing items on future surveys can be obtained by contacting Lynn K. White, NASIS Study Director, at the Bureau of Sociological Research or by sending for a copy of the 1980 NASIS Prospectus.

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Employed Wives and Marital Adjustment

J. Allen Williams
Alan Booth

Throughout the agrarian period of American History the family was a productive unit with husband, wife, and children working together in the common enterprise. As the nation moved toward industrialization the family farm and cottage industry began to give way to a new form. Increasingly, men left the home during the day to work in the new factories and businesses in the society's growing urban areas. Women, especially those who married, tended to remain at home performing the traditional tasks of housekeeping and caring for young children. The attitude that "woman's place is in the home" was sufficiently pervasive that efforts to keep her there were incorporated into the domestic laws of many states. For example, in 1850 a wife had no legal control over her own personal property and her services belonged to her husband.

Kephart (1977:222) points out that:

Female wage earners and career women were looked upon with suspicion and were sometimes excluded from social functions. In general, a woman had little alternative but to marry and fulfill her childbearing and homemaking "destiny."

By 1890 only 4.6 percent of married women were in the labor force.

Another dramatic change in family form is now occurring. As of 1976, 45.0 percent of married women, with a husband present in the household, were employed in the labor force. This is clearly not limited to women with no children in the home. Examination of 1976 census data shows that 56.2 percent of mothers with children between the ages of six and seventeen are gainfully employed and those with preschoolers include 39.7 percent who are employed.

Sociologists have a reasonably good understanding of why married women have been entering the job market. For example, the high cost of children combined with efficient birth control technology has encouraged and allowed couples to have fewer children. Consequently, even women who feel a responsibility to stay at home with their children find they have many potentially productive years with no youngsters to care for. Furthermore, while the world wars created a demand for female employment and helped to change attitudes about women working, this gradual shift in point of view has more recently been aided by the cost of goods and services increasing faster than income. That is, a two-income family can more easily maintain a decent standard of living or at least hope to cope with inflation better than can a family with a single wage earner. Additionally, an ever larger proportion of women desire to find jobs they perceive as being intrinsically more interesting or satisfying than housework.

Sociologists also have been interested in the impact of the wife's employment on the family. Once again, quite a bit has been learned. We know, for example, that the children of a working mother are not negatively affected by the fact that she is employed, or by her absence from the home. (However, a problem does lie in locating and affording quality childcare.) Another area of research has examined the effect of employment on the woman's mental and physical health. Generally, compared to housewives gainfully employed, married women have been found to have lower levels of psychiatric impairment and stress-related disease. A third kind of study has focused on the family's division of labor. As mentioned, traditionally the husband has been expected to provide for his family and to protect its members while the wife's responsibility has been

to maintain the home and take care of the children. One might expect a change in the division of labor when the wife works outside the home and the research tends to support this expectation. Although the situation may be changing, it appears that working wives continue to perform a larger share of the household chores than do their husbands.

The topic of the present report deals with yet a fourth line of inquiry, the influence of the wife's employment on marital adjustment. We know less about this subject and the studies that are available lead to some opposing conclusions. Let us briefly review the findings.

Research conducted in the 1950's found greater conflict among dual-employed couples than among those in which the wife was not employed (cf. Gianopoulos and Mitchell, 1957; Nye, 1958-1959; Blood and Wolfe, 1960). Typically, working-class couples said they quarreled about the handling of money whereas middle-class couples argued over marital roles. Studies made in the 1960's and early 1970's generally reported no differences in marital happiness between dual- and single-income couples (cf. Gendell, 1963; Fogarty et al., 1971; Scanzone, 1975). Blood (1963) also found no differences among middle-class couples, but reported that among those in the working class, couples in which the wife was employed tended to be more satisfied. Hoffman and Nye (1975) reached the opposite conclusion suggesting that in the lower class differences favored couples in which the wife was not employed. In 1976 Burke and Weir gave a somewhat new twist to the research question by raising the possibility that husbands and wives are differentially effected by the wife's employment status. They reported that employed wives were more likely than housewives to have positive attitudes toward their marriage, but the husbands of working wives were less likely to be contented with their marriage than men

married to housewives. However, Booth's (1977) replication and extension of the Burke and Weir study found no significant difference in marital adjustment between wives who had been working full time for more than a year and housewives who had never been in the labor force, nor did it find that a wife's working outside the home had any important impact on the husband's marital adjustment.

The inconsistency in findings over the last three decades undoubtedly stems from a number of different factors. For one thing, there may have been real changes over time. For example, as married women have entered the labor force in increasing numbers the corresponding changes in family form and the allocation of family responsibilities may have become more acceptable and thus less tension producing. Another problem arises from the use of different measures of marital adjustment. For example, the early studies tended to focus on marital conflict while those that followed were more likely to measure reports of marital happiness. Although these are probably related, they are not necessarily measures of the same thing. Even the unit of measurement may make a difference. As mentioned, it is possible that husbands and wives respond differently to a wife's employment, but some studies have measured the adjustment of one person and assumed that this characterized the couple. Finally, while researchers have recognized that the impact of a wife's employment on marital adjustment varies depending on other conditions, e.g., social class, presence of children in the household, the husband's willingness to share household duties, studies have not been consistent in isolating or controlling for these conditions. We believe that the present study moves us toward resolving some of these issues.

MEASUREMENT

The Nebraska Annual Social Indicators Survey acquired information from a representative sample of 1,882 persons residing in the State who were living in households and eighteen years of age or older. The present report is based on the 1,059 of these individuals who were married and living with a spouse at the time of the interview and who provided us with sufficient information for analysis.

We have measured marital adjustment in two ways. The more general measure, marital happiness, was determined by asking, "taking all things together, how would you describe your marriage? Would you say that your marriage is very happy, pretty happy, or not too happy?" Those answering "pretty happy" or "not too happy" were combined into a single category as persons evidencing some degree of dissatisfaction with their marriage. In other words, they chose not to say that their marriage was very happy. Our second measure isolates those whose marriage has been sufficiently poor to have considered ending it. Realizing that it is possible to think about divorce without seriously applying the idea to one's own marriage, we attempted to provide the appropriate context for our question by reading the following statement to each respondent, "A lot of people become so upset and dissatisfied with their (husband/wife) that they sometimes think about divorce." We then asked, "Have you felt this way about your marriage in the last two years.?"

Since the influence of the wife's employment status may vary, depending on the circumstances or situation, we also measured length

of marriage, presence of children in the home, level of education, and degree of satisfaction with the household division of labor. Length of marriage was measured in years and its effect was controlled throughout the analysis. Presence of children was used as a dichotomous variable, no children and one or more children in the home. Educational level was divided into those with a high school education or less and those with post high school training. This division approximates a separation of respondents into working and middle-class. Satisfaction with the division of labor was determined by asking, "How satisfied are you with the way you and your (husband/wife) divide up the household chores? Are you completely satisfied, fairly well satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?" Those selecting any of the last three choices were categorized as not completely satisfied with the division of labor.

Husbands and wives were examined separately using multiple classification analysis, a procedure that allows us to determine the effect of one variable on another while controlling for the possible effects of other factors (cf. Andrews et al., 1973).

FINDINGS

For the total sample of married Nebraskans we found 37 percent indicating they are less than very happy with their marriages and 14 percent who said they have thought about divorce in the last two years. There is no significant difference in the proportions of men and women who gave these responses. Interestingly, however, analysis indicates that wives give these responses for somewhat different reasons than did their husbands.

The Employment Status of Wives and Their Marital Adjustment

As can be seen in Table 1, satisfaction with the household division of labor, presence of children in the home, and education are significantly and independently associated with the reported marital happiness of wives, but the wife's employment status is not. Satisfaction with the division of labor and presence of children also are associated with having thought about divorce while the wife's level of education apparently makes little, if any, difference with respect to this measure of marital adjustment. Most importantly for our research question, the wife's employment status is significantly associated with having thought about divorce. After eliminating the effects of the other variables in the analysis (the adjusted percentages), only 12 percent of housewives report having thought about divorce compared to 21 percent of working wives. Apparently, while working outside the home has no important bearing on marital happiness for a majority of wives, a fairly sizable minority have found work to cause problems in their marriage, or to provide an opportunity to escape a marriage already in trouble. Examination of the relationship between employment status and the other variables in the analysis gives us some clues about the circumstances responsible for this marital difficulty.

Table 2 shows us the combined relationship of the wife's employment status and each of the other variables on having thought about divorce. Both working and having children in the home clearly produce difficulty. While there is no appreciable difference between housewives and those who are employed when there are no children, only 14 percent of the housewives compared to 31 percent of the working mothers

have contemplated divorce. The other two comparisons are not statistically significant, but suggest the possibility that both working and being dissatisfied with the division of labor, and having a post-high school education and working form combinations increase the likelihood of marital problems.

The findings presented in Table 3 show us three-way combinations of the variables as they relate to having thought about divorce. The first combination indicates that a wife's employment leads to marital difficulty or represents an escape from an unhappy marriage for her when she has children at home and is dissatisfied with the household division of labor. We can see that among women who have no children and are dissatisfied with the household division of labor there is no percentage difference between housewives and those who are employed. However, among those women who have children and are dissatisfied with the division of labor, 16 percent of the housewives say they have considered divorce compared to 37 percent of working mothers. The relationships between working and being dissatisfied with the division of labor and between working and having children continue to be evident in the next two groupings of variables shown in the table; but it also can be seen that they appear to be somewhat stronger among middle-class women, i.e., those who have an education beyond the high school level.

A very important finding for our research question is that the effect of employment on having considered divorce is all but nullified if the working wife is satisfied with the household division of labor. This appears to be true regardless of the wife's level of education and whether there are children in the home.

The Employment Status of Wives and Husbands' Marital Adjustment

Although husbands in the Nebraska sample were about as likely as wives to say they have thought about divorce in the last two years, the data presented in Table 4 indicate that the wife's employment status is not a significant contributor to their having thought this way. On the other hand, the findings show that the wife's working status is significantly and independently associated with the husband's reported marital happiness. Thirty-one percent of husbands whose wives are not employed said they are less than very happy while 42 percent of the husbands with working wives gave this response. It also can be seen that satisfaction with the household division of labor and the husband's level of education are related to happiness, but presence of children in the home appears to have little, if any, independent effect.

Table 5 shows the relationship of the wife's employment status and each of the other variables to marital happiness. The interaction between having a child in the home and the wife's employment status is not significant, but the other two combinations show strong relationships with happiness. While dissatisfaction with the division of labor affects the husband's marital happiness, regardless of the wife's employment status, it is quite clear that having a working wife and being dissatisfied with the household division of labor produces the largest percentage of husbands who are unhappy with their marriage. And, among husbands with an education beyond the high school level, those with working wives are considerably less likely to be very happy with their marriage.

The three-way combinations of variables shown in Table 6 further

clarifies the associations between the marital happiness of husbands and the employment status of their wives. From the first combination we can see that husbands, regardless of whether there are any children in the home, are most likely to be less than very happy with their marriage if their wives work and they are dissatisfied with the household division of labor. Looking at the two combinations of variables that include the husband's level of education, we can see that the wife's employment status has little effect on marital happiness among working-class husbands. Middle-class husbands, on the other hand, are clearly affected in a negative way if the wife is employed and this is especially pronounced if the husband is dissatisfied with the household division of labor and if there are children in the home.

CONCLUSIONS

We began this report by pointing out that an ever increasing proportion of married women have been entering the labor force during this century and that sociologists have been interested in the possible impact of this trend on the structure and functioning of the family. We also pointed out that while a considerable amount has been learned about various consequences, e.g., the influence on children and on the mental health of women, we are less than certain about the impact of a wife's employment on marital adjustment. This report has described a study designed to help answer this question.

With respect to wives, we found that gainful employment has no significant influence on how happy they say they are with their marriage. However, only 12 percent of housewives told us they have thought about divorce in the last two years compared to 21 percent

of employed wives. Using this measure of marital adjustment and controlling for length of marriage, the women who appear to be the most satisfied with their marriage are housewives who have no children in the home and are satisfied with the household division of labor. Women evidencing the highest proportion having considered divorce are those who work outside the home, have children, and are dissatisfied with the household division of labor. The level of dissatisfaction associated with these factors appears to be especially pronounced among middle-class wives.

The picture that emerges from the findings is that women who are living in a more traditional family setting tend to be the most contented with their marriage. Perhaps it is to be expected that those wives who have deviated from the established norms of homemaking and child rearing through gainful employment would be more likely to encounter marital difficulties. Breaking away from the conventional ways of doing things is nearly always stressful. Yet, as we have discussed, movement of women into the labor force is not a temporary shift from a traditional pattern, but a long-term trend that shows no sign of changing in the foreseeable future. And, it is a rational response to the conditions of modern society. Thus, resolution of the problems resulting from a wife's employment does not lie in her returning to the home, but in reducing the strain created by her absence. We have seen that having children in the home and being dissatisfied with the division of labor are associated with marital dissatisfaction even among housewives. The situation is compounded if the wife works. We obviously do not expect couples

to forego having children, although having fewer of them and learning better methods of child rearing can assist in alleviating some of the problems entailed. The key appears to rest with the household division of labor. Our data have shown that working wives are no more likely than housewives to have considered divorce if they are satisfied with the way they and their husbands divide up the household chores. The implication, of course, is that husbands who recognize the wife's need for help thereby eliminate a primary cause of marital strain associated with her outside employment.

Husbands with working wives are no more likely to say they have thought about divorce than are husbands of unemployed wives. However, they are significantly less likely to say they are very happy with their marriage. 31 percent of the men married to unemployed women expressed some dissatisfaction compared to 42 percent of the men with working wives. The data suggests that the husbands who are most likely to be very happy with their marriage are middle-class, satisfied with the household division of labor, have no children in the home, and married to women who remain at home as housewives. The least likely to be very happy also are middle-class, but in this case they have working wives, children, and are dissatisfied with the household division of labor.

The husbands most likely to be very happy with their marriages are those who have most closely approximated the traditional ideal of the American family. They have a higher level of education and thus are probably more financially secure than others. Their wives are at home and they are satisfied with the household division of

labor. Given traditional expectations, we can infer that husbands' satisfaction with the household division of labor has a different meaning than it does for their wives. For many husbands satisfaction probably means that the wife is responsible for a major portion of the household chores. Having children in the home also presumably has little effect on their satisfaction since traditional wives take considerable responsibility for their care. Thus, unlike working-class husbands who may need and even want their wives to work to obtain necessary income, the middle-class husband with a working wife is faced with a rather radical departure from the conventional ideal. He may be quite dissatisfied if he is called upon to spend more of his time helping with household tasks formerly perceived a "women's work" and this appears to be exacerbated if he is to give more of his time to childcare. If our inferences are correct, it would seem that a resolution of the problem will require a change in both behavior and attitude. That is, the data on women suggest that working wives have better marital adjustment when their husbands take a more active part in helping with family tasks. Thus, husbands who are willing to modify the traditional division of labor by taking on some of these chores reduce marital problems for their wives. However, if they resent doing this, then they are less happy with their marriage. Consequently, a change in attitude becomes an additional necessity. Husbands must not only do more, they must accept their increased participation as appropriate if women's employment is not to stress marriages.

TABLE 1. MARITAL ADJUSTMENT OF WIVES BY SELECTED VARIABLES

<u>Selected Variables</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Adjusted Percent Less Than Very Happy With Their Marriage*</u>	<u>Level of Significance **</u>	<u>Adjusted Percent Having Thought About Divorce*</u>	<u>Level of Significance **</u>
<u>Wife's Employment Status</u>					
Housewife	384	36	N.S.	12	.01
Employed	180	40		21	
<u>Satisfaction With Household Division of Labor</u>					
Satisfied	222	16	.001	11	.03
Dissatisfied	342	51		18	
<u>Presence of Children in The Home</u>					
None	182	27	.001	8	.01
One or More	381	42		18	
<u>Education</u>					
Twelve Years or Less	330	41	.01	16	N.S.
Twelve Years or More	234	31		14	

*Adjusted by controlling for length of marriage and all of the other variables included in the table.

**Probability of difference having occurred by chance. N.S. (Not Significant) means the difference could have occurred by chance more than five times in a hundred.

TABLE 2. Adjusted Percents of Wives Having Thought About Divorce In Relation To The Wife's Employment Status And Other Selected Variables: Two-Way Interactions.*

Presence of Children in the Home

Wife's Employment Status	None		One or More		Level of Significance**
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Housewife	99	8	285	14	.02
Employed	83	9	97	31	

Satisfaction with Household Division of Labor

Wife's Employment Status	Satisfied		Dissatisfied		Level of Significance**
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Housewife	157	9	226	15	N.S.
Employed	65	11	115	26	

Education

Wife's Employment Status	Twelve Years or Less		More than Twelve Years		Level of Significance**
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Housewife	230	13	153	12	N.S.
Employed	100	19	80	23	

*Percents adjusted by controlling for length of marriage and all of the other variables included in the table.

**Probability of differences having occurred by chance. N.S.(Not Significant) means the differences could have occurred by chance more than five times in a hundred.

Table 3. Adjusted Percents of Wives Having Thought About Divorce in Relation to the Wife's Employment Status and Other Selected Variables: Three-Way Interactions*

Presence of Children in the Home					
None					
Satisfaction with Household Division of Labor					
Wife's Employment Status	Satisfied Number	Satisfied Percent	Dissatisfied Number	Dissatisfied Percent	Level of Significance**
Housewife	56	6	43	12	N.S.
Employed	35	6	49	11	

Presence of Children in the Home					
One or More					
Satisfaction with Household Division of Labor					
Wife's Employment Status	Satisfied Number	Satisfied Percent	Dissatisfied Number	Dissatisfied Percent	Level of Significance**
Housewife	102	11	183	16	.04
Employed	30	18	67	37	

Education					
Twelve Years or Less					
Satisfaction with Household Division of Labor					
Wife's Employment Status	Satisfied Number	Satisfied Percent	Dissatisfied Number	Dissatisfied Percent	Level of Significance**
Housewife	106	10	125	15	N.S.
Employed	40	13	60	24	

Table 3. continued

Education More Than Twelve Years Satisfaction with Household Division of Labor					
Wife's Employment Status	Satisfied		Dissatisfied		Level of Significance
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Housewife	52	6	102	15	.04
Employed	25	9	55	29	

Education Twelve Years or Less Presence of Children in the Household					
Wife's Employment Status	None		One or More		Level of Significance**
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Housewife	68	5	162	16	N.S.
Employed	45	7	55	29	

Education More Than Twelve Years Presence of Children in the Household°					
Wife's Employment Status	None		One or More		Level of Significance**
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Housewife	31	16	122	11	N.S.
Employed	22	11	42	33	

*Percents adjusted by controlling for length of marriage and all of the other variables included in the table.

**Probability of difference having occurred by chance. N.S. (Not Significant) means the differences could have occurred by chance more than five times in a hundred.

Table 4. Marital Adjustment of Husbands by Selected Variable

<u>Selected Variables</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Adjusted Percent Less Than Very Happy With Their Marriage*</u>	<u>Level of ** Significance</u>	<u>Adjusted Percent Waving Thought About Divorce*</u>	<u>Level of ** Significance</u>
<u>Wife's Employment Status</u>					
Unemployed	340	31	.01	12	N.S.
Employed	193	42		13	
<u>Satisfaction with Household Division of Labor</u>					
Satisfied	306	23	.001	8	.002
Dissatisfied	228	52		17	
<u>Presence of Children in the Home</u>					
None	164	33	N.S.	8	N.S.
One or More	370	36		14	
<u>Education</u>					
Twelve Years or Less	278	39	.04	10	N.S.
Twelve Years or More	255	31		14	

*Adjusted by controlling for length of marriage and all of the other variables included in the table.

**Probability of difference having occurred by chance. N.S. (Not Significant) means the difference could have occurred by chance more than five times in a hundred.

Table 5. Adjusted Percents of Husbands Less Than Very Happy With Their Marriage in Relation to the Wife's Employment Status and Other Selected Variables: Two-Way Interactions*

Presence of Children in the Home

Wife's Employment Status	None		One or More		Level of Significance**
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Housewife	81	29	259	32	N.S.
Employed	83	38	110	46	

Satisfaction With Household Division of Labor

Wife's Employment Status	Satisfied		Dissatisfied		Level of Significance**
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Housewife	200	21	140	46	.01
Employed	105	27	88	61	

Education

Wife's Employment Status	Twelve Years or Less		More Than Twelve Years		Level of Significance**
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Housewife	179	38	161	25	.02
Employed	99	40	94	45	

*Percents adjusted by controlling for length of marriage and all of the other variables included in the table.

**Probability of differences having occurred by chance. N.S. (Not Significant) means the difference could have occurred by chance more than five times in a hundred.

Table 6. Adjusted Percents of Husbands Less Than Very Happy With Their Marriage in Relation to the Wife's Employment Status and Other Selected Variables: Three-Way Interactions*

Presence of Children in the Home

None

Satisfaction With the Household
Division of Labor

Wife's Employment Status	Satisfied		Dissatisfied		Level of Significance**
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Housewife	55	27	26	35	.04
Employed	49	23	34	60	

Presence of Children in the Home

One or More

Satisfaction With the Household
Division of Labor

Wife's Employment Status	Satisfied		Dissatisfied		Level of Significance**
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Housewife	145	19	114	49	.01
Employed	56	31	54	62	

Education

Twelve Years or Less

Satisfaction with Household
Division of Labor

Wife's Employment Status	Satisfied		Dissatisfied		Level of Significance**
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Housewife	110	24	69	59	N.S.
Employed	62	26	37	62	

Table 6. continued

Education More Than Twelve Years					
Satisfaction With Household Division of Labor					
Wife's Employment Status	Satisfied		Dissatisfied		Level of Significance**
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Housewife	91	.18	71	34	.01
Employed	43	28	51	60	

Education Twelve Years or Less					
Presence of Children in the Household					
Wife's Employment Status	None		One or More		Level of Significance**
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Housewife	55	35	124	39	N.S.
Employed	37	42	62	38	

Education More Than Twelve Years					
Presence of Children in the Household					
Wife's Employment Status	None		One or More		Level of Significance**
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Housewife	26	17	135	26	.04
Employed	46	35	48	55	

*Percents adjusted by controlling for length of marriage and all of the other variables included in the table.

**Probability of differences having occurred by chance. N.S. (Not Significant) means differences could have occurred by chance more than five times in a hundred.

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List of reports already released using data gathered in the 1979 Nebraska Annual Social Indicators Survey. These may be purchased at the indicated price from the Bureau of Sociological Research of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Report Number

Title

- 1 Designs, Procedures, Instruments, and Forms for the 1979 NASIS. Lynn K. White. Price: \$7.50.
- 2 Taxes: Are They Fair? Susan Welch and Alan Booth. Price: \$.50.
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